

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
TRSE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 /090 W
-----054408 091811Z /46

O 091542Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8372
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1784

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 3996

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SF
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S SPEECH TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REF: PRETORIA 3922

1. PRIME MINISTER JOHN VORSTER SPOKE AUGUST 5 TO A GATHERING
CELEBRATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS. FOLLOWING SEVERAL MINUTES OF PRAISE OF THE DEPARTMEN
T,
VORSTER LAUNCHED INTO SHARP CRITICISM OF AMERICAN POLICY AND MOTIVES
TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA. HE APPEALED TO THE FREE WORLD
COUNTRIES NOT TO MAKE AN ENEMY OF SOUTH AFRICA, THE ONE NATION IN
AFRICA ON WHICH THEY CAN DEPEND IN TIME OF CRISIS, EMBASSY TRANSLATIO
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OF RELEVANT PORTIONS OF TEXT FOLLOWS: (VORSTER DELIVERED
PARA 3 BELOW IN ENGLISH, THE REST IN AFRIKAANS.)

2. " BUT IF YOU ASK ME: WHAT AHEAD? THEN I SAY:
ALL THAT IS NECESSARY IS TO REMAIN CALM, TO DO WHAT IS
NECESSARY AND TO BE PREPARED TO WITHSTAND THE PRESSURE--
FROM WHICHEVER SIDE IT MAY COME AND IN WHICHEVER FORM--

WITH ALL OUR MIGHT, HOWEVER SMALL OUR POWER MAY SEEM.

3. " I HAVE SPOKEN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ABOUT PRESSURE. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT PRESSURE IS BEING APPLIED FROM MANY QUARTERS ON SOUTH AFRICA TODAY, IN MANY CASES OPENLY BUT MOSTLY BEHIND THE SCENES. MUCH OF THE PRESSURE SPRINGS FROM TH ACTIONS OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED AND WHERE THAT IS SO IT IS MAINLY DONE FOR INTERNAL REASONS AND TO GAIN ELECTORAL SUPPORT. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, THERE IS EVIDENCE, STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY PERSISTENT STATEMENTS AND REPORTS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD, THAT THIS PRESSURE IS BEING COORDINATED AND ACTIVELY SUPPORTED BY CERTAIN POWERFUL AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS AT THE REQUEST OF AND WITH THE HELP AND BACKING OF CERTAIN OFFICIAL CIRCLES IN THAT COUNTRY. THERE IS ALSO EVIDENCE THAT CERTAIN PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA BELIEVE AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE THAT THEY TOO HAVE THE BACKING AND SUPPORT OF THE SAME SOURCES WITH THEIR ATTEMPTS TO BRING ABOUT A RADICAL CHANGE OF POLICY AND DIRECTION IN SOUTH AFRICA BY EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY MEANS AND BY EXERTING CERTAIN PRESSURES EVEN IF SUCH PRESSURES LEAD TO VIOLENCE AND DISORDER. THE AIM AND OBJECT OF THE PRESSURES ARE TO ISOLATE SOUTH AFRICA IN ALL FIELDS AND TO DISCOURAGE TRADE WITH AND INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA. AND IN THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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CONNECTION TWO QUESTIONS CAN BRIEFLY BE POSED: HOW DID IT COME ABOUT AND HOW FAR WILL IT GO? IT IS TRUE THAT THE BULK OF THE NEGRO IN AMERICA WHO VOTED, VOTED FOR THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND IT IS ACCEPTED, BOTH IN AMERICAN AND ELSEWHERE, THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AT PRESENT IS UNDER PRESSURE OF THE BLACK CAUCUS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. SECONDLY, IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO WIN THE FAVOUR OF THE THIRD WORLD AND ESPECIALLY OF AFRICA, AFRICA WITH 50 SEATS IN THE UNITED NATIONS OR APPROXIMATELY ONE-THIRD OF THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS. AND TAKING THAT INTO CONSIDERATION I SAY TO YOU TONIGHT THAT THE END RESULT, WHETHER THEY SO INTEND IT OR NOT, IS THAT THEY ARE SET UPON A CERTAIN COURSE AND IF MY READING OF THE SITUATION IS CORRECT AND THAT COURSE, IF PERSISTED IN CAN LEAD ONLY TO ONE THING, AS I SEE IT, NAMELY TO CHAOS AND ANARCHY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. IN OTHER WORDS IF THIS PRESSURE IS PERSISTED IN, THE END RESULT FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA WOULD BE EXACTLY THE SAME AS IF IT WAS SUBVERTED BY THE MARXISTS. IN THE ONE CASE IT WILL COME ABOUT AS A RESULT OF BRUTE FORCE, IN THE OTHER CASE IT WILL BE STRANGULATION WITH FINESSE. HOWEVER, LADIES AND

GENTLEMEN, LET ME SAY IMMEDIATELY I DO NOT BELIEVE FOR ONE MOMENT THAT THAT IS THE WISH OR THE INTENTION OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AS A MATTER OF FACT I BELIEVE THAT ONCE THEY REALISE THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH ACTION THEY WILL DEMAND THAT IT BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY. I BELIEVE SINCERELY AS I STAND HERE TONIGHT BEFORE YOU IN THE FAIRNESS, IN THE SENSE OF AIRNESS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THAT IS WHY I SPEAK TO YOU TONIGHT AS I DO.

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4. " I HAVE TOLD YOU THAT THE USA WOULD LIKE TO WIN THE FAVOR OF AFRICA AT ALL COSTS. AT PRESENT THERE IS MORE CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE IN AFRICA THAN EVER BEFORE. GENERAL HATRED FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND GENERAL CONTEMPT AGAINST COLONIALISM HAS BEEN THE BINDING FACTOR IN THE PAST TO PRESERVE THE UNITY OF THE AFRICAN STATES. ON THIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR DEPARTMENT, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE USE OF THIS PLATFORM TO SAY TO THE REST OF AFRICA: IT IS TIME THAT YOU COME TO YOUR SENSES, OTHERWISE YOU WILL DESTROY YOURSELF IN THE PROCESS. CONTEMPT FOR COLONIALISM AND HATRED FOR S.A. IS NOT ENOUGH AND WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY SO TO KEEP THE REAST OF THE AFRICAN STATES TOGETHER. PRESENT HAPPENINGS IN

AFRICA ARE PROOF ENOUGH. AFRICA MUST TAKE NOTE THAT THE MILITANTS AMONGST THEM HAVE JEOPARDIZED THE FUTURE AND PROPERITY OF THEIR PEOPLE AND HAVE DONE THEM AN UNCLASSIFIED

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INJUSTICE. THE PRESENT DETERIORATING CONDITION OF MANY AFRICAN STATES TODAY HAS BROUGHT ABOUT AN AWAKENING AND WILL BRING ABOUT A MORE PROFOUND AWAKENING IN MANY AFRICAN STATES. THE TIME HAS COME FOR AFRICA TO TAKE STOCK OF ITSELF AND IN DOING SO, IT WILL NOTICE THAT THOSE STATES THAT HAVE MADE GENUINE PROGRES ARE THE STATES THAT HAVE DEEMED THE INTEREST OF THEIR OWN WELFARE AND PROSPERITY HIGHER THAN THE VENDETTA AGAINST S.A. AND I DO NOT DOUBT THAT THE VOICES OF THOSE MODERATE STATES WILL IN THE LONG RUN BECOME LOUDER AND CLEARER AND FINALLY BECOME THE VOICE OF THE WHOLE OF AFRICA. I BELIEVE THAT SOUTH AFRICA, THE GATEWAY TO AFRICA, HAS AN OBLIGATION TO FULFILL. AND I BELIEVE THAT EACH ONE OF US HERE TONIGHT IS WILLING AND EAGER TO ASSIST, EACH IN HIS OWN WAY, TO FULFILL THAT OBLIGATION. AND I BELIEVE THAT IN THIS PROCESS, SOUTH AFRICA IS INDISPENSABLE TO THE FREE WORLD, THE SAME FREE WORLD THAT, BECAUSE OF ITS OWN ACTIONS, IS BUSY BLOCKING ITS OWN WAY. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE LEADER OF THE WESTERN WORLD: "DO NOT MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO PLAY ITS ROLE IN THE FREE WORLD. IF, AS A RESULT OF YOUR ACTIONS, SOUTH AFRICA IS DESTROYED, WHAT WILL TAKE ITS PLACE? WHAT CAN TAKE ITS PLACE?"

5. " THE MESSAGE OF MY COUNTRY AND MY PEOPLE TO THE FREE WORLD IS THIS: " WHY MAKE AN ENEMY OF THE ONE COUNTRY IN AFRICA ON WHICH YOU CAN FINALLY, WHEN THE CRISIS ARRIVES, DEPEND?"

6. " THE YEARS AHEAD WILL BE MORE INTERESTING, MORE BREATHTAKING AND MORE DANGEROUS. BUT I AM GLAD THAT YOU DO NOT LACK VISION, INSIGHT AND COURAGE. MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE MINISTER, SECRETARY, VARIOUS HEADS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT URGES ME TO SAY: THEY WILL PLAY THEIR PART AND SOUTH AFRICA CAN BE SURE THAT THEIR FRONTLINE IS NOT ONLY COVERED, BUT WELL COVERED, AND FOR THIS REASON I WISH TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS." BOWDLER

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